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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF STATES

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 12th September 1949

No. 203-P. WHEREAS the Central Government has full and exclusive authority, jurisdiction and powers for, and in relation to, the governance of the State of Cooch-Bihar,

NOW THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 3 and 4 of the Extra-Provincial Jurisdiction Act, 1947 (XLVII of 1947) and of all other powers enabling it in this behalf, the Central Government is pleased to make the following order:—

1. *Short title, extent and commencement.*—(1) This Order may be called the Cooch-Bihar (Administration) Order, 1949

(2) It extends to the whole of Cooch-Bihar

(3) It shall come into force on the 12th day of September 1949.

2. *Definition.*—In this Order, ‘Cooch-Bihar’ means the whole of the area, which, immediately before the commencement of this Order, is comprised within the State of Cooch-Bihar

3. *Appointment of Chief Commissioner.*—There shall be a Chief Commissioner appointed by the Central Government at the head of the administration of Cooch-Bihar.

4. *Appointment of functionaries.*—(1) Subject to the control of the Central Government, the Chief Commissioner may appoint such Judges, Magistrates and other Officers as may be necessary for the administration of Cooch-Bihar and may, by general or special order, determine their jurisdiction, powers, duties and functions.

(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-paragraph (1), all Judges, Magistrates and other officers who immediately before the commencement of this Order, were exercising lawful functions in Cooch-Bihar or any part thereof shall, until other provision is made by the Chief Commissioner, continue to exercise their respective functions in the same manner and to the same extent as they were doing before the commencement of this Order.

5. *Existing laws to continue.*—All laws in force in Cooch-Bihar or any part thereof immediately before the commencement of this Order shall continue in force until repealed or amended by a competent legislature or authority,

Provide that all powers exercisable under the said laws by His Highness the Maharaja or the Government of the State shall be exercisable by the Chief Commissioner.

8. *Continuance of Existence taxes.*—All taxes, duties, cesses or fees which immediately before the commencement of the Order, were being lawfully levied in Cooch-Bihar or any part thereof shall continue to be levied and applied to the same purposes, until other provision is made by a competent legislature or authority.

A. B. CHATTERJI, Joint Secy.